

GREATER LAFAYETTE AREA TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT STUDY

TECHNICAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2012

Sallie Fahey	Area Plan Commission
Jennifer Miller	Lafayette City Engineer
Mike Wink (proxy for Mark Albers)	INDOT – Crawfordsville Division
Sgt. Max Smith	Lafayette Police Department
Dave Buck	West Lafayette City Engineer
Jim Knapp (proxy for Betty Stansbury)	Purdue University Airport
Capt. Chris Leroux	West Lafayette Police Department
Marty Sennett	CityBus
Capt. Brian Sterner	Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Department

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Doug Poad	APC
Anna Burman	APC
Reggie Arkell (attended by phone)	FTA

ALSO PRESENT

Steve Biggerstaff	METRONET
Tommy Decker	METRONET
Jan Myers	Citizen
Jarvis Joiner	American Structurepoint
Bob Foley	Lafayette Engineer's Office

Secretary Sallie Fahey called the meeting to order at 2:00p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jenny Miller moved to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2012 meeting as submitted. Brian Sterner seconded and the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

II. ACCESS PERMITS

Mike Wink said no new permit applications were filed.

III. FY 2012-2015 TIP AMENDMENT Two INDOT projects and One Lafayette Project

Doug Poad said INDOT is requesting this amendment in order to program two bridge inspection projects and Lafayette is requesting this amendment to shift Federal STP funds from the Concord Road and Maple Point Drive Extension projects to the John T. Myers and Riehle Plaza Pedestrian Bridge projects.

He went on to say the first INDOT request is for a statewide project to inspect bridge load ratings even though no specific bridges in Tippecanoe County are on the list to be inspected. The second part of the INDOT request involves inspecting the post-tensioned concrete box style bridges of both the downtown SR 26 eastbound and westbound bridges over the Wabash River.

He said the Lafayette request is to shift \$1,840,000 from the construction phase of the Concord Road and Maple Point Drive Extension projects to the construction phase of the John T. Myers and Riehle Plaza Pedestrian Bridge projects. He added that because there are enough funds programmed for the Concord Road and Maple Point Drive Extension project, this request is fiscally constrained.

Jim Knapp moved to recommend approval of the **FY 2012-2015 TIP AMENDMENT** to the Area Plan Commission. Dave Buck seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

IV. FY 2012 ANNUAL LISTING OF PROJECTS

Doug Poad said FHWA requires all MPOs to develop an Annual Listing of Projects to show how our Federal gas tax money is spent. For most MPOs the listing is just a simple table that lists what projects were let for construction, how the Federal funds were used, and compare that to the *TIP*. We have higher standards for that report in our area and we provide quite a bit of information about not only our local projects but also state and bus projects. He went on to say that in addition to having the standard tables everyone else has; we have information regarding each project along with the project timeline, aerial photos showing the location of the project, and photographs of the project. We also have a section for completed projects unlike most MPOs. We are trying to get before and after photographs for each project as well. He said the document is already on the APC website, under transportation updates. He added that he has a few paper copies available for anyone who would like one.

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Sallie Fahey said METRO FIBERNET approached Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County about a fiber-optic project for all the cities and as far into the county as they can get. She said Lafayette and Tippecanoe County joined together for one economic development project in the TIF and West Lafayette is doing it separately. We hope that they all will come together at the same time for approval by the Plan Commission. She went on to say that the fiber lines will primarily be in public right-of-way but it has not been determined which rights-of-way will be used. She asked METRO FIBERNET to talk to the Tech Committee because the Committee is the keeper of all the public roads in the community. She introduced Tom Decker and Steve Biggerstaff.

Steve Biggerstaff thanked Sallie Fahey for inviting him to speak to the Committee. He distributed copies of the PowerPoint presentation so everyone can follow along. He said this project was started several years ago and it has been over a year since he talked with the cities and the county. The key is to work with all the groups together to gain cooperation. He said his company is branding a product called METRONET. The first 10 counties METRONET served were CINERGY METRONET but after Duke Energy purchased Cinergy the METRONET portion was separated from Duke. He added that METRONET still has agreements in place with Duke Energy and those agreements are very important because we use Duke's poles. METRONET is an Indiana based company, headquartered in Evansville,

and an all-fiber provider and that is taken right to the home by the fiberglass being terminated on the side of the house of customers who sign up for the service. He believes fiber provides a clear product for communities. METRONET has built a number of fiber communities throughout the state but it is a very expensive process. METRONET uses private investors and private equity to build the networks. He said construction was started in June in Franklin, Indiana and as of this morning there are already 100 residential customers signed up and only 10% of the build is done. He explained that it will only take about two months to get to the business customers and a little longer than that to start serving residential customers. We will be working with some of the existing fiber networks and have access to their network as well. He went on to say that METRONET will offer Fiber IPTV, High-speed Fiber Internet, and full-featured fiber phone. He then explained how the offered services will exceed what is currently available. He said they are planning to expand into home security and other applications to increase services to homes and businesses. He said METRONET will have a local office that will offer retail and technician services. He displayed a slide showing the FTTP project overview and said the most important benefit is that an FTTP network provides greater opportunities for "home grown" entrepreneurship, telecommuting, distance learning, telemedicine, etc. After talking with the Redevelopment Commissions, and various commissions in Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, and West Lafayette we have determined a "best estimate". He went on to say that the actual build out will depend on a number of factors, and the schedule is subject to change throughout the preconstruction and construction periods. Initially the Fiber will be placed in public rights-of-way, dedicated public utility easements, and will typically follow the power lines. He referred to the map on page 7 and said Phase 1 and Phase 4 will be started first in Lafayette. METRONET is already looking at a vacant building on Earl Avenue, just north of South Street, and a location on Salisbury for the retail stores. He explained how some of the poles may not be ready to accept the fiber equipment and the alterations/replacements that may have to be made. Pretty soon staff will be doing the ride-outs with Duke to confirm what we already know and what needs to be done. Duke will then give METRONET a price for the work that needs to be done. The pole work is less difficult than the underground work.

Marty Sennett joined the meeting in progress.

Steve Biggerstaff recapped the estimated build out schedule for Greater Lafayette and West Lafayette by saying that construction will take 18-24 months to complete. He said the underground network will be started first and as soon as a neighborhood is turned on, approximately 200 homes or businesses, they will be able to serve that neighborhood. In other communities there have been 12 underground crews working at the same time and he anticipates having more crews than that working here because they will be working both communities simultaneously. He went on to say that the TIF process is very important because not only does it allow METRONET to get started but it also lets the company know its boundaries and how to accomplish all the needs. The schedule is very aggressive and he hopes that the buildout is complete in 18 months. He explained that the fiber network will pass every house and every business. The coordination is critical. He went on to say that the City of West Lafayette and the City of Lafayette Redevelopment Commissions approved the METRONET FTTP TIF Bond Declaratory Resolution in February and METRONET commissioned and completed a detailed field engineering and feasibility study. Right now METRONET is designing where the fiber will go on the pole and that will be verified with Duke Energy to determine the estimates are right. Construction costs came in a little higher than what was estimated but the project will move forward. It has been determined that the capital expenditure for Lafayette and Tippecanoe County will be \$45,000,000 and about \$15,000,000 for West Lafayette. METRONET believes this is an important added infrastructure project that will help the community recruit business and industry. METRONET estimated that 40-50 jobs will be created in the greater Lafayette area. He is looking for input from the cities and county staffs to be sure everything is headed in the right direction during the pre-construction process. There will also be several pre-construction meetings before any work starts to introduce everyone to the construction contractors and keep everyone informed on when and where the crews will be working. He explained the "daily street sheet" that will be sent electronically to any interested parties. The sheets show what street the crews will be working on, the number of crews in the neighborhood, the crew chief, and the type of work, aerial or underground. He said the Greater Lafayette pre-construction and construction process is as follows:

- City-gate to city-gate in West Lafayette and Lafayette;
- Continue review of Tippecanoe County;

- Seek employees and interview for key positions;
- Finalize the TIF process;
- Final Board review;
- Pre-construction press releases;
- Pre-construction meetings/contacts with HOAs and other organizations;
- Pre-construction door hangars;
- Marking underground utilities;
- Begin construction; and
- Continued interface with community.

Sallie Fahey introduced Mike Wink, INDOT Crawfordsville District, to Steve Biggerstaff and said INDOT has its own permitting process for anything that would cross or be in a state highway. She suggested he touch base with Mike Wink.

Steve Biggerstaff said he is familiar with INDOT's permitting process because they have had to do that in every community when they cross a state road. He added that he has already worked with the Crawfordsville District. He said he will keep Mike Wink in the loop when they are holding pre-construction meetings and said he is welcome to join any meeting he chooses.

Mike Wink said he is not really the right INDOT contact person for this project because he is not in the programs department but he said he will pass the information on.

Sallie Fahey then introduced Jim Knapp, Senior Civil Engineer in Facilities Planning for Purdue University, to Steve Biggerstaff. She suggested keeping Jim Knapp informed also.

Jim Knapp said he has talked to Mike Robish, Gary English, and other folks in the telecommunication and IT group.

Steve Biggerstaff said that on the West Lafayette slide there are some holes shown and that is because the poles are on private property. He said METRONET does not have the right to put fiber into the mall and some of the apartment complexes. Tom Decker is working on obtaining utility access to allow us to bring fiber to private property. He anticipates Jim Knapp will be very involved when METRONET gets into further discussions with Purdue.

Sallie Fahey pointed out that all the local enforcement agencies are represented at the meeting today and she feels the daily sheets will be helpful to them.

Marty Sennett asked that CityBus be included on the list to receive the daily sheets.

Sallie Fahey referred to page 4 of the handout and pointed out the as-yet-to-be-developed part of the Purdue Research Park. She asked how that area can be serviced now when there aren't streets in that development.

Steve Biggerstaff explained that in the undeveloped areas where there are no customers and no rights-of-way we will not provide service. If a potential customer asks for service we will work that out at that time but we can always serve customers from the fringe. We will look at timing and economics before agreeing to provide service.

Steve Biggerstaff then said he can be reached at www.sbiggerstaff@indy.rr.com

VI. APC PROGRESS REPORT

INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad referred to the list that was distributed with the packet and said there are no new projects on the list and no major changes. The functional overlay US 231 project was moved from a September to an October letting. He hopes there is more information to share next month.

Administrative *TIP* Modifications

Sallie Fahey said she made an Administrative Modification to the *TIP* for Lafayette's South 18th Street project. Around \$40,000 was moved from construction to right-of-way acquisition.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None

Sallie Fahey said the next Technical Transportation Committee meeting will be October 17, 2012.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Jenny Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. Brian Sterner seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50p.m.



Sallie Dell Fahey
Secretary